

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (previously presented) A teleconferencing system comprising a conference bridge having a multichannel connection to each of a plurality of terminal equipments, each multichannel connection comprising a plurality of individual channels, and each of the plurality of terminal equipments receiving the individual channels through a respective one of the multichannel connections, each of the terminal equipments having means to separately process each received channel to provide a plurality of outputs, each output representing one of the other terminal equipments.

2. (previously presented) A system according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the terminal equipments has spatialisation means to combine the outputs representing each terminal equipment to provide a spatialisation output in which each terminal equipment is represented by a virtual sound source.

3. (previously presented) A teleconferencing system comprising a conference bridge having a multichannel connection to each of a plurality of terminal equipments, each multichannel connection comprising a plurality of individual channels, and each of the terminal equipments receiving the individual channels through a respective one of the multichannel connections, each of the terminal equipments having means to separately process each received channel to provide a plurality of outputs, each output representing one of the other terminal equipments;

wherein the conference bridge comprises a concentrator, having means to identify the currently active input channels, and to transmit only those active channels over the multichannel connections as the plurality of individual channels, together with control information identifying the transmitted channels.

4. (previously presented) A system according to claim 1, wherein the channel representing a given terminal equipment is excluded from the output provided in that terminal.

5. (previously presented) A system according to claim 4, comprising means in at least one of the terminal equipments for excluding the channel from the processing.

6. (previously presented) A system according to claim 4, comprising means for excluding the channel from the multichannel transmission from the bridge to the respective terminal equipment.

7. (previously presented) A system according to claim 1, provided with selection means whereby the user of an individual terminal can select which channel, or channels, of the plurality of channels are to be output by the user terminal.

8. (previously presented) A system according to claim 1, at least one of the terminal equipments having echo cancellation means comprising means for

detecting correlations between the output signal from the at least one terminal equipment and input signals carried on individual input channels to the at least one terminal equipment, the input signals being representative of other terminal equipments, such correlations being indicative of acoustic feedback at the at least one terminal equipment, and means for canceling such feedback signals in the output signal.

9. (previously presented) A system according to claim 8, wherein at least one of the terminal equipment comprises, for each channel of the output signal, a plurality of adaptive filters, each adaptive filter being arranged to model the echo path between a respective input channel and the respective output channel, and for each output channel there being provided a combiner for adding the outputs of the respective plurality of adaptive filters to generate an echo cancellation signal for the respective output channel.

10. (previously presented) A method of providing teleconferencing services to a plurality of terminal equipments in which a multichannel connection is provided from a conference bridge to each of the plurality of terminal equipments, each multichannel connection comprising a plurality of individual channels, in which each of the plurality of terminal equipments receives the individual channels through a respective one of the multichannel connections and processes each received individual channel separately to provide a plurality of outputs, such output each representing a respective one of the other terminal equipments.

11. (previously presented) A method according to claim 10, wherein the outputs are processed to generate a spatialised output in which each cooperating terminal equipment is represented by a virtual sound source.

12. (previously presented) A method of providing teleconferencing services to a plurality of terminal equipments, in which a multichannel connection is provided from a conference bridge to each of the plurality of terminal equipments, each multichannel connection comprising a plurality of individual channels, in which each of the plurality of terminal equipments receives individual channels through a respective one of the multichannel connections, and processes each received individual channel separately to provide a plurality of outputs, such output each representing a respective one of the other terminal equipments;

wherein the conference bridge identifies the currently active input channels and transmits only those active channels over the multichannel connections as the plurality of individual channels, together with control information identifying the transmitted channels.

13. (previously presented) A method according to claim 10, wherein the channel representing a given terminal equipment is excluded from the output provided to that terminal equipment.

14. (previously presented) A method according to claim 10, in which correlations are detected between the output signal from a given terminal equipment and

input signals carried on individual input channels to the terminal equipment, the input signals being representative of other terminal equipments, such correlations being indicative of acoustic feedback at the terminal equipment, and cancelling such feedback signals in the output signal.

15. (original) A method according to claim 14, wherein, for each channel of the output signal, an adaptive filter models the echo path between a respective input channel and the respective output channel, and for each output channel the outputs of the respective plurality of adaptive filters are added to generate an echo cancellation signal for the respective output channel.

16. (previously presented) A teleconferencing system comprising a conference bridge having a multichannel connection to each of a plurality of terminal equipments, each multichannel connection comprising a plurality of individual independent monaural channels, and each of the plurality of terminal equipments receiving the individual independent monaural channels through a respective one of the multichannel connections, each of the terminal equipments having means to separately process each received individual independent monaural channel to provide a plurality of outputs, each output representing one of the other terminal equipments.

17. (previously presented) A method of providing teleconferencing services to a plurality of terminal equipments, in which a multichannel connection is provided from a conference bridge to each of the plurality of terminal equipments, each

multichannel connection comprising a plurality of individual independent monaural channels, in which each of the plurality of terminal equipments receives the individual independent monaural channels through a respective one of the multichannel connections, and processes each received individual independent monaural channel separately to provide a plurality of outputs, such output each representing a respective one of the other terminals.

18. (previously presented) A system as in claim 3, wherein the currently active input channels form a subset of input channels of the conference bridge.

19. (previously presented) A method as in claim 12, wherein the currently active input channels form a subset of input channels of the conference bridge.

20. (previously presented) A system as in claim 1, wherein each of the terminal equipments includes a demultiplexer for separating the individual channels received through a respective one of the multichannel connections.

21. (previously presented) A method as in claim 10, wherein each of the terminal equipments includes a demultiplexer for separating the individual channels received through a respective one of the multichannel connections.

22.-26. (canceled)